

NOV 13 2006

REMARKS

In the Office Action dated August 11, 2006, claim 5 was objected to, but indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form. Claim 22 is objected to. Claims 6 – 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, 2nd paragraph. Claims 1, 3, 4, and 11 – 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b).

In view of the amendments to the claims and for the following reasons, it is respectfully submitted that Applicant's invention as set forth in the pending claims patentably defines over the cited reference and is not anticipated thereby. Reconsideration is, therefore, respectfully requested.

Claim 22 was objected to for a numbering error. Accordingly, claims 19, 20, and 21 listed in Applicant's previously filed Amendment have been formally renumbered 20, 21, and 22, as done by the examiner.

Claims 6 – 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, 2nd paragraph. Claim 6 has been amended to address the wording noted by the Examiner.

The subject matter of claim 5 which the Examiner indicated would be allowable has been incorporated into claim 1 and similar language has been added to claim 13. In view of the indicated allowability of the subject matter of claim 5, it is respectfully submitted that Applicant's invention as set forth in claims 1, 3, 4, 11 – 15, 18 and renumbered claim 20 is now in condition for allowance.

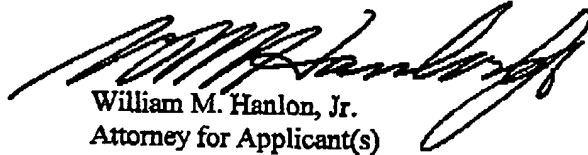
It is further noted that the only rejection of claims 6 – 10 was under 35 U.S.C. § 112, 2nd paragraph. Since independent claim 6 includes subject matter similar to that of claim 5, it is also submitted that claims 6 – 10 patentably define over the cited reference.

Entry of this Amendment under the provisions of Rule 37 C.F.R. 1.116 is submitted to be warranted and is respectfully requested. By this Amendment, several claims have been cancelled and other claims amended to include allowable subject matter which the Examiner has identified in claim 5. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that only allowable claims remain in the application.

Entry of this Amendment and issuance of the Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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